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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,022	02/27/2002	Koji Kunii	450100-03800	2689

20999 7590 12/04/2003

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NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

ABDULSELAM, ABBAS I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,022

Applicant(s)

KUNII ET AL.

Examiner

Abbas I Abdulsalam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis et al. (USPN 6470497).

Regarding claims 1 and 5-7, Ellis teaches an electronic program schedule system (10), whose components can be located in a user's set-up cable converter box or other signal reception or processing device (col. 4, lines 50-60). Ellis discloses a data provider, which is a program information provider, and the data stream containing program schedule information for all television programs and similar services (col. 4, lines 67 and col. 5, lines 1-5). Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) that recognizes the received data as an application software, which controls the program, schedule system and stores it in Rom, EEPROM (20) (col. 5, lines 42-47). Further, Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) issuing proper control commands to a program circuit (21), which is adapted to supply the proper program voltage and logic control signals (22) required to erase and write to the EEPROM (20). See col. 5, lines 61-65. In addition, Ellis discloses the micro-controller (16) functioning through taking the program schedule information and supplying to a video display generator VDG (23) See. Col. 6, lines 34-44. Ellis mentions the use of remote controllers whose functions can be integrated into a keypad on the user's cable box

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or other hardware See col. 8, lines 65-67. Ellis does not specifically teach “establishing means for establishing preset information for presenting a program for unattended recording based on an application input by a user referring to the program information displayed by the displaying means.” On the other hand, Ellis teaches that when a user selects a future program, it is possible to set a VCR timer for programmed recording. For example, Ellis teaches that when a user presses an ENTER button (44) on the remote control device while a future program is selected, the user can set a VCR timer to control the VCR at the scheduled time at which a REMINDER message is displayed. See col. 14, lines 32-41.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Ellis’s selection of future program for the purpose of setting and recording a program ahead of time. One would have been motivated in view of Ellis that future program selection along with the use of VCR equivalently establishes preset information for presenting a program for unattended recording.

Regarding claim 2, Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) issuing proper control commands to a reprogram circuit, which is adapted for writing and erasing. See col. 5, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim 3, Ellis discloses that that the system may be configured to display program schedule information for multiple channels or multiple time periods. See col. lines 50-54.

Regarding claim 4, Ellis teaches icons (47A 47B) that may be displayed on a TV screen directly above the corresponding distinguishing color-coded key. See col. 8, lines 8-21 and Fig. 4

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### Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered to applicant's disclosure.

The following arts are cited for further reference

U.S. Pat. No. 6,353,444 to Katta et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,949,492 to Mankovitz

U.S. Pat. No. 5,896,555 to Yoshinobu

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Abbas Abduselam** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-8591**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard Hjerpe**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4709**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9314**

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology center 2600 customer Service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Abbas Abdulsalam

Examiner

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November 26, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hjerpe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**RICHARD HJERPE**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**